

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 04070 310044Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 MCT-02 ACDA-12
EB-08 COME-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05
/079 W

-----033669 310050Z /73/23

O R 301955Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7634
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 4070

(C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - SAN JOSE ADDED)
E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, MILI, NU
SUBJECT: ALLEGED BOMBING OF MATAGALPA

REF: MANAGUA 4057 AND SHELTON/TUCKER TELCON

1. ACCORDING TO MILGP SOURCES IN NICARAGUAN AIR FORCE,
THE AIRCRAFT INVOLVED IN THE ROCKET FIRING REPORTED REFTTEL,
WAS A CESSNA-02 BOUGHT COMMERCIALY REPEAT COMMERCIALY
BY THE GON. THE AIRCRAFT WAS ORDERED WITH HEAVIER WINGS
IN ORDER TO SUPPORT ROCKET FIRING PODS. THE ROCKET CAPABILITY
WAS INSTALLED ON THE AIRCRAFT EITHER BY A ARGENTINE OR FRENCH
COMPANY UNDER CONTRACT TO GON.

2. THE PILOT OF THE AIRCRAFT MAINTAINS THAT THE ROCKET
FIRING TOOK PLACE TEN MILES REPEAT TEN MILES NORTHEAST OF
MATAGALPA. HE SAID THAT HE DID NOT FIRE DIRECTLY AT THE
INSURGENT GROUPS BUT RATHER TO ONE SIDE IN ORDER TO
DRIVE THEM OUT OF THE MOUNTAINOUS AREA TOWARD THE
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AREA THE GN TROOPS WERE LOCATED.

3. SOURCES INSIST THIS WAS ONLY AIR TO GROUND
INCIDENT.

4. VARIOUS HELICOPTER SORTIES ARE BEING MADE BRINGING
REINFORCEMENT INFANTRY TROOPS TO THE MATAGALPA AREA.

ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT HAVE EXACT INFORMATION ON WHICH
HELICOPTERS ARE BEING USED IN THESE SORTIES, GON'S
TOTAL MILITARY HELICOPTER FLEET CONSISTS OF: 4 HUGHES
500S, BOUGHT COMMERCIALY; 4 H35SS AND 2 S58TS BOUGHT
AS SURPLUS PROPERTY UNDER FMS; AND 2 OH6S PROVIDED
UNDER THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SOME YEARS AGO.
ACCORDING TO GON SOURCES, THESE HELICOPTERS WERE NOT
ARMED, ALTHOUGH THE 2 S58TS COULD EASILY BE MOUNTED
WITH 50 CALIBER MACHINE GUNS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOMBING, PROVINCE, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, ALLEGATIONS, AIR FORCE, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780363-0156, D780354-0798
Format: TEL
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PINS, MILI, NU
To: STATE
Type: TE
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